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DA 15-968

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WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU AUTHORIZES ADDITIONAL PRICE CAP CARRIERS TO RECEIVE ALMOST \$950 MILLION IN PHASE II CONNECT AMERICA SUPPORT

AT&T Services, Inc. to receive over \$427.7 million, CenturyLink, Inc. to receive over \$505.7 million, Cincinnati Bell Telephone Company LLC to receive over \$2.2 million, and Consolidated Communications Holdings, Inc. to receive over \$13.9 million

WC Docket No. 10-90

By this Public Notice, the Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) authorizes AT&T Services, Inc. (AT&T), CenturyLink, Inc. (CenturyLink), Cincinnati Bell Telephone Company LLC (CBT), and Consolidated Communications Holdings, Inc. (Consolidated) to receive Connect America Phase II model-based support for the states identified below. On April 29, 2015, the Bureau released a public notice announcing the offers of model-based Phase II support to each price cap carrier to fund the deployment of voice and broadband-capable networks in their service territories. AT&T, CenturyLink, CBT, and Consolidated submitted letters to the Commission accepting model-based support for the states identified below and committing to satisfy the service obligations for Phase II.²

Accordingly, we authorize and direct the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) to obligate and disburse from the Universal Service Fund the Phase II support amounts identified below for

¹ Wireline Competition Bureau Announces Connect America Phase II Support Amounts Offered to Price Cap Carriers to Expand Rural Broadband, WC Docket No. 10-90, Public Notice, 30 FCC Rcd 3905 (Wireline Comp. Bur. 2015).

² Letter from James W. Cicconi, Senior Executive Vice President, External and Legislative Affairs, AT&T Services, Inc., to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC, WC Docket No. 10-90 (filed Aug. 27, 2015) (accepting support in the identified states and declining the Phase II offer of model-based support in Missouri, Nevada, and Oklahoma); Letter from Maxine Moreau, Executive Vice President Global Networks, CenturyLink, Inc., to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC, WC Docket No. 10-90 (filed Aug. 26, 2015) (accepting support in the identified states and declining the Phase II offer of model-based support in California, Mississippi, Oklahoma, and Wyoming); Letter from Michael Shultz, Vice President, Regulatory & Public Policy, Consolidated Communications Holdings, Inc., to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC, WC Docket No. 10-90 (Aug. 27, 2015) (accepting support in all the states where it was offered model-based support); Letter from Michael S. Vanderwoude, Senior Vice President & General Manager, Consumer Markets, Cincinnati Bell Telephone Company LLC, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC, WC Docket No. 10-90 (filed Aug. 26, 2015) (accepting support in all the states where it was offered model-based support).

AT&T, CenturyLink, CBT, and Consolidated.³ As required by the Commission,⁴ consistent with their election, we direct USAC to disburse to AT&T, CenturyLink, and CBT, from the broadband reserve account, a lump sum payment associated with January through July 2015 for those states where model-based support is greater than Phase I support. Consistent with Consolidated's election, we direct USAC to disburse to Consolidated in the first quarter of calendar year 2016 a lump sum payment associated with January through July 2015 for Iowa, where model-based support is greater than Phase I support.

³ If the Bureau determines that there is a discrepancy between the number of model-determined locations and the actual number of locations in a price cap carrier's service area in a state, the Commission has delegated authority to the Bureau to adjust the number of funded locations and the associated funding levels on a pro rata basis. *Connect America Fund et al.*, WC Docket No. 10-90 et al., Report and Order, 29 FCC Rcd 15644, 15659, para. 38 n.88 (2014).

⁴ *Id.* at 15678, para. 93 (providing carriers the option of receiving a lump sum payment for the prior months in the month after issuance of a public notice authorizing support, or deferring the lump sum payment until 2016).

AT&T Services, Inc.

State	Number of Funded Locations	Amount of Support
AT&T Total	1,117,806	\$ 427,706,650
AL	66,766	\$ 23,161,780
AR	51,792	\$ 21,350,835
CA	141,540	\$ 60,240,434
FL	25,473	\$ 8,485,813
GA	67,402	\$ 25,345,199
IL	19,077	\$ 8,932,507
IN	45,136	\$ 17,576,788
KS	35,375	\$ 18,942,367
KY	84,333	\$ 30,962,548
LA	74,978	\$ 27,907,591
MI	86,635	\$ 29,750,677
MS	133,981	\$ 49,772,592
NC	13,139	\$ 3,498,889
ОН	37,603	\$ 14,802,500
SC	30,458	\$ 9,689,453
TN	81,173	\$ 26,137,862
TX	98,432	\$ 42,078,424
WI	24,513	\$ 9,070,392

CenturyLink, Inc.

State	Number of Funded Locations	Amount of Support
CenturyLink Total	1,174,142	\$ 505,702,762
AL	48,865	\$ 17,290,009
AR	45,708	\$ 19,761,508
AZ	23,758	\$ 10,089,092
СО	53,139	\$ 26,509,143
FL	32,273	\$ 10,916,671
GA	777	\$ 269,719
IA	34,827	\$ 17,893,887
ID	12,367	\$ 6,279,869
IL	3,651	\$ 2,093,982
IN	30,052	\$ 10,736,352
KS	29,018	\$ 16,501,327
LA	24,324	\$ 9,471,015
MI	25,230	\$ 9,028,031

State	Number of Funded Locations	Amount of Support
MN	114,739	\$ 54,035,150
MO ⁵	158,311	\$ 77,850,608
MT	33,638	\$ 15,195,628
NC	36,159	\$ 10,008,390
ND	8,044	\$ 5,656,741
NE	10,899	\$ 6,888,416
NJ	1,881	\$ 450,340
NM	25,308	\$ 10,942,747
NV	2,265	\$ 1,072,346
ОН	47,707	\$ 15,982,805
OR	41,785	\$ 17,759,903
PA	30,297	\$ 10,562,353
SC	8,551	\$ 2,952,228
SD	15,071	\$ 9,117,215
TN	5,791	\$ 1,662,828
TX	27,184	\$ 11,300,418
UT	4,366	\$ 1,894,801
VA	49,993	\$ 15,731,765
WA	58,961	\$ 24,412,884
WI	129,203	\$ 55,384,589

Cincinnati Bell Telephone Company

State	Number of Funded Locations	Amount of Support
Cincinnati Bell Total	7,084	\$ 2,229,130
KY	6,339	\$ 2,034,186
ОН	745	\$ 194,944

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⁵ The amount of support that is authorized for Missouri is subject to adjustment, pending the outcome of the Commission's resolution of the application for review of the decision in the *Phase II Challenge Process Resolution Order* to deny two challenges to the treatment of a number of census blocks in Missouri as unserved. *See* Application for Review of Co-Mo Comm Inc. and United Services, Inc., WC Docket Nos. 10-90 and 14-93, at 2 (filed Apr. 29, 2015); *see also Connect America Fund; High-Cost Universal Service Support*, WC Docket Nos. 10-90 and 14-93, Order, 30 FCC Rcd 2718 (Wireline Comp. Bur. 2015) (*Phase II Challenge Process Resolution Order*).

Consolidated Communications Holdings, Inc.

State	Number of Funded Locations	Amount of Support	
Consolidated Total	24,698	\$	13,922,480
CA	71	\$	14,837
IA	3,019	\$	2,393,216
IL	12,079	\$	6,998,705
MN	4,266	\$	2,516,502
PA	175	\$	83,898
TX	5,088	\$	1,915,321

For additional information on this proceeding, contact Heidi Lankau (<u>Heidi.Lankau@fcc.gov</u>) of the Wireline Competition Bureau, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, (202) 418-7400.